

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 41-49 were originally pending. Claims 44 and 48 have been amended. Claims 41-43, 47, and 49 have been canceled without prejudice. No Claims have been added. Accordingly, claims 44-46, and 48 remain pending.

Applicant thanks the Office for the indication that claims 44 and 48 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the features of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. In view of this, Applicant has so amended the application to place it into condition for allowance. More particularly, claims 44 and 48 have been amended to include all of the features of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. Remaining pending claims 45-46 depend from allowable claim 44. Accordingly, Applicant trusts that the rejections to claims 45-46 and the objections to claims 44 and 48 will be withdrawn, and the application will be allowed.

Should any issue remain that prevents allowance of the application, the Office is encouraged to contact the undersigned prior or issuance of a subsequent Office action.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 8/26/04

By: Brian G. Hart

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